

(3) A copy of a decision on a stay request shall be sent to the appellant(s), intervenor(s), and the Deciding Officer.

(h) A decision may be implemented during a review unless the Reviewing Officer has granted a stay.

(i) A Reviewing Officer's decision on a request to stay implementation of a project or activity included in a Land and Resource Management Plan or significant amendment or revision to the plan is not subject to discretionary review at the next administrative level.

[54 FR 3357, Jan. 23, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 7896, Mar. 6, 1990; 56 FR 4918, Feb. 6, 1991; 58 FR 58916, Nov. 4, 1993]

**§ 217.11 Dismissal without review.**

(a) A Reviewing Officer shall dismiss an appeal and close the appeal record without decision on the merits when:

(1) The notice is not filed within the time specified in § 217.8 of this part;

(2) The requested relief or change cannot be granted under law, fact, or regulation existing when the decision was made.

(3) The notice of appeal fails to meet the minimum requirements of § 217.9 of this part to such an extent that the Reviewing Officer lacks adequate information on which to base a decision;

(4) The decision at issue is being appealed under another administrative proceeding;

(5) The decision is excluded from appeal pursuant to § 217.4 of this part;

(6) The appellant(s) withdraws the appeal;

(7) The Deciding Officer withdraws the appealed decision; or

(8) The Chief has invoked the provisions of § 217.18 of this part.

(b) The Reviewing Officer shall give written notice of a dismissal to all participants that includes an explanation of why the appeal is dismissed.

(c) A Reviewing Officer's dismissal decision is subject to discretionary review at the next administrative level as provided for in § 217.7(d) of this part, except when a dismissal decision results from withdrawal of an appeal by an appellant or withdrawal of the initial decision by the Deciding Officer.

[54 FR 3357, Jan. 23, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 7896, Mar. 6, 1990; 56 FR 4918, Feb. 6, 1991]

**§ 217.12 Resolution of issues.**

(a) When a decision is appealed, appellants or intervenors may request meetings with the Deciding Officer to discuss the appeal, either together or separately, to narrow issues, agree on facts, and explore opportunities to resolve the issues by means other than review and decision on the appeal. Reviewing Officers may, on their own initiative, request the Deciding Officer to meet with participants to discuss the appeal and explore opportunities to resolve the issues. However, Reviewing Officers may not participate in such discussions. At the request of the Deciding Officer, or on their own initiative, Reviewing Officers may extend the time periods for review to allow for conduct of meaningful negotiations. Such extensions may occur only after the time period for intervention and for the Deciding Officer to transmit the decision documentation has elapsed. In granting an extension, the Reviewing Officer must establish a specific time period for the conduct of negotiations.

(b) The Deciding Officer has the authority to withdraw a decision, in whole or in part, during the appeal. Where a Deciding Officer decides to withdraw a decision, all participants to the appeal will be notified that the case is dismissed. A Deciding Officer's subsequent decision to reissue or modify the withdrawn decision constitutes a new decision and is subject to appeal under this part.

[54 FR 3357, Jan. 23, 1989, as amended at 56 FR 46550, Sept. 13, 1991]

**§ 217.13 Reviewing officer authority.**

(a) *Discretion to establish procedures.* A Reviewing Officer may issue such determinations and procedural instructions as appropriate to ensure orderly and expeditious conduct of the appeal process as long as they are in accordance with all the applicable rules and procedures of this part.

(1) In appeals involving intervenors, the Reviewing Officer may prescribe special procedures to conduct the appeal.

(2) In case of multiple appeals of a decision, the Reviewing Officer may prescribe special procedures as necessary to conduct the review.